

MCR Exec Meeting Agenda

Time: 5 Nov 2012, 7 pm

Officers Present:

Jonny Crawford (Chair)
Alex Kelsall (President)
Rachael Oakenfull (Social Secretary)
Xu (Anna) Jing (Social Secretary)
Kunal Kapoor (Secretary)
Adam Wang (Web designer)

Apologies:

Geraint Evans (Treasurer)
Laura da Costa (Web Designer)

Item 1 – Constitution

- Alex: Business of Exec committee: Need to get in good practice of following the rules of the constitution because, come Christmas, we will likely be a different sort of organization. JCR, etc, run like a trust. More discussion on this issue to come later in meeting.

Item 2 – Website

- Alex: need to get a list of all group member emails. And details. This is for the booking system.
- Rachael: Suggestions for a general, MCR-only email list. Will make communication easier, especially when comprising lists for formals, etc.
- Alex: post master can give us a specific email list.
- Rachael: There is no website format to take payments. No website payments. Comprising lists of people will work well. But, still need to track down people.
- Charlotte: Grey no longer affiliates with PayPal.
- Alex: Laura sent emails to post master who is in charge of mailing lists. I will ask Julie for a list of MCR members specifically.
- Rachael: Laura wants people's profiles on website. Instead of email address, can they instead use a contact link, in which people send you an email, but the email address is hidden. This will inhibit outside spammers.
- Alex: Officers, we have to fill in our profiles by the 9th for the website. Remember deadline.
- Jonny: Did everyone pay money for the formal?
- Rachael: No... some people have not yet paid. Anna has a lot of receipts... as well as Rachael and Alex.
- Alex: Has a meeting with Geraint to figure out when they will arrange setting up being signatories on the account.
- Rachael: If anyone comes and checks the account, no one has a clue. If we get a bill for formal...not everyone has paid for it yet.
- Alex: Has not yet seen accounts. Will be going to banks very soon. Am meeting tomorrow hopefully with Laura and Geraint. Will discuss establishing a payment system. Website payment will likely not work...but we can do otherwise, even if G keeps a spreadsheet, etc. Will figure out a method
- Rachael: Temporary method for payment collection in light of upcoming formal next Wednesday?
- Alex: Will just need to speak to G

- Rachael: Since G is at teikyo, why not set aside a time where he is in the MCR for an hour “come pay me,” etc. If you cannot come, then pay later.
- Jonny: People can also send money to me in lieu of G if he’s unavailable.
- Alex: In terms of uploading rights for photos. Who will be doing the uploading?
- Adam: webmasters will
- Anna: we also need a video. Have you seen the castle one? Its “BLEehhheheh”
- Alex: I want to create a spoof of the castle video. In lieu of pot in the back, people in trackies eating cheese. With the same voice over “Grey MCR, as civilized as Castle”. Instead of a piano in the background, someone with a small casio.
- Alex: Reminder - Make sure everyone gets website profiles sorted for Friday.

Item: 4th year rep

- Charlotte: Technically, I’m still 4th year rep, but I can’t be it. Don’t mind doing it until someone else gets selected. Usually a rather minimal role.
- Jonny: how many 4th years are there?
- Charlotte: Worth putting up a couple events and emailing all 4th year members in the college. What a/b an MCR event that is just 4th year?
- Alex: An event where they meet people, not just exec. That will be better
- Kunal: What about if they come to formals with us once?
- Charlotte: They are invited. If they are in the MCR and have paid their dues, they are allowed to come.
- Rachael: 16 seats for formals. Priority is first come first serve. When there are only 16 seats, priority is also given to people in MCR vs. guests. Such will be the case in the lash and tash formal next Wednesday
- Alex: With the growing number of MCR members, only 16 seats is not in proportion. Will need to talk to Laura a/b this.
- Rachael: Do a take-off of something that they do in the JCR. Ie, Drop in sessions where you can get your CV looked at, etc. For people in 3rd year
- Rachael: How about an informal reception where potential postgrads (current undergrads) can come have a look and see what life in MCR is like, what life as a postgrad in Grey is like, what the research is like, what the seminars are like, etc.
- Rachael: The one thing people struggled with last year are the themes. Ie, “Dispelling the Myth theme” is difficult to adhere to. We had int’l students who spoke in different languages, etc... and then asking them to conform their speech into a theme will be rather difficult.
- Anna: I am not sure if the email lists that we are using “gr-list”,... are the emails going to them.
- Jonny: I send them out to those 6 individuals who are 4th years who are not in the above mentioned email list.
- Anna: If they want to attend our events, like movie nights, Diwali night, thanksgiving day celebration, etc. We need to communicate with them, and ask them if they want to come. Should not ignore.
- Alex: I strongly want a 4th year rep. We most certainly shall include them. We need to run another event to get them involved, otherwise we’ll miss the boat.
- Anna: We should invite them, email them, the choice is ultimately in their hands
- Charolotte: They have to pay 15 pounds to join. Maybe they can see a

couple events first before they join? Last year, there were some who didn't pay because they didn't think they would get a lot out of the experience. They are already paying 45 quid for JCR membership. Let them see 2-3 events, and if they want to join, then let them.

- Alex: is anyone prepared to take charge of the 4th year rep contacting issue? 6 members.
- Rachael: Not worth running an event only for 6 people.
- Kunal: Jonny, can you send me that list? Because I haven't been sending emails to them
- Jonny: Can we send an email to all the 4th years?
- Rachael: make it clear that this is only valid until Christmas time without paying
- Alex: Provide them with a list of events... interest them. We can get them interested.
- Charlotte: Can do this, but they will not be able to join the MCR for formals without paying. You will not have to battle with the undergrad booking system, as this is the main advantage of being a member as an undergrad. You are not allowed to attend formals with the MCR without paying. You can still attend other events until Christmas without paying. We don't necessarily have to invite them to "all" events.
- Jonny: I think it's a great idea. Send them all an email, see the turnout
- Alex: I'd rather, it was along the lines of, you still have a chance to join the MCR – these are the fantastic events we have coming up in the following terms. Join! This way, it's not as a threatening ultimatum. Encourage them to join. It's only 15 pounds. We've got some 4th years. Trying to sell it, rather than making it an ultimatum. And, they have the freedom of choice. Anna, Rachael, Adam – good idea? Any other ideas about getting 4th years involved?
- Anna: Give them choice
- Alex: Kunal, as secretary, can you send the updates of events to 4th years as well.

Item 3: Livers out

Upcoming event: *Sunday the 25th. Livers out Lunch*

- Alex: Are many people attending events as livers out? Views?
- Rachael: Have been living out for the past 2 years. But, I am still going to come in and do stuff. People who live in know each other, end up coming. People who live out but have come to first few events in the first couple weeks, but otherwise they don't come. A social only for livers out?
- Alex: How about a Livers Out Lunch? The alliteration is catchy.
- Rachael and Anna: Agreed.
- Rachael: With some of the stuff we have been doing, we've had a lot of things left over... in terms of supplies for the kitchen. People who live in have raided the cupboard. Although there are not that many livers out coming, we still can't have the livers in hegemonizing the resources in the cupboard. Especially since all have paid equally.
- Alex: Social secs, are you happy to organize a livers out event in the next couple weeks? Something more informal. Available to all members, but have to really attract them. Can we even do it in MCR?
- Rachael: Can we have set tables in the dining hall?
- Jonny: Point of living out is that they are far away from college...a closer more convenient location for them?
- Rachael: **I am going to Japan on the 25th of November for approx 1**

week. Can we start planning for Christmas so I can start thinking of things so it will not pile up for when I come back.

- Anna: livers out and livers in all belong to the college. Why not have an icebreaker for all of us?
- Jonny: have a proper meal in town, but alternate seats?
- Rachael: I was a livers out last year. Went to a postgrad formal, and met a crazy group of people that I liked. Next time, I wnet. . but it's still a bit of an effort.
- Anna: combination? Or just livers out?
- R: Combination. But, have some places that's really obvious where you can meet people,
- J: We did drinks at poppolos in the first couple weeks etc
- Alex: But I don't want it to just be drinks.
- Anna: What about a 2nd time?
- Rachael: make it a very defined point to meet people.
- Alex: what about Sunday the 18th?
- Rachael: Not going to be here. IN York all day
- Alex: What a/b Saturday the 17th? Livers out Dinner?
- Adam: What about a college trip? Like, Ustinov scheduled a trip to holy island?
- Rachael: problem is busses and cost.
- Anna; trip next term, because it will be warmer
- Alex: livers out Lunch. Agreeing that we make it a general event title, or specific to livers out?
- Rachael: I would suggest sending them a separate email. send livers out a specific email. Send a livers in a separate email entirely.
- Alex: Actually, lets sleep on it. Because, I don't know if we want to invite the livers-in. Let's vote for the date, though. Kunal, views?
- Kunal: think we should have livers in welcome.
- Alex: what do you all think about dinner vs lunch?
- Anna storms back in: lalal lala lalala
- Anna: movie night starts now. If you don't mind, you can go to my room to have the meeting.
- Discussion leads to consensus.
- **Alex: *Ok, Sunday the 25th. Livers out Lunch.***
- Rachael: Can I request to sedn the email? I will draft the email from the perspective of a livers- out.
- Anna: Two different emails?
- Alex: No, Email inviting everyone

Item4: - Furniture

-Alex: Spoke to bursar today. They will be able to contribute money to our Furniture. Made a big point about the fact that they hadn't spent money on this for years.

Rachael: can you please ask them to mend the heating in the MCR, as they have not changed it in years.

Alex: Do you think it's a good idea in which we held an OGM, in which we could discuss the furniture to see what people like/want?

Rachael: when the website is up and running, can we have them post on the website with suggestions, etc?

Jonny: def agree with a suggestion list.

Alex: If someone wants to come to the committee to have a mini committee, etc. We have the option of getting a TV, TV licenses, etc. That would come out of the MCR money, the license. But, that might favor the livers in rather than the livers out.

Alex: Make the room more friendly.

R: make it more like a living room.

Jonny: What about Wii? What about a Foosball table?

Alex: I suggest we speak to people, get some ideas. When we get the website up and running, maybe we can have a list of suggestions. Talk to people about what they want, what they think will be useful. Will talk to Karen about how much we can actually spend for furniture.

R: We could have a meeting, open discussion, brief discussion about furniture. Maybe for a brief period before movie night. Anyone welcome to come.

Item 5: magazine subscriptions

- Alex: Need to talk to Geraint about the subscriptions to see if any are still being drawn from the account.

Item 6: Socials

Key dates:

- *Diwali on the 17th.*
- *Lash and Tash formal on the 19th of November. MCR has a table.*
- *Christmas formal, the 10th and 11th of December.*
- *Carol service on the 11th, as well.*
- Alex: Just wanted to talk to you, R and Anna, about upcoming socials.
- R: Krista would like to do a Thanksgiving party on the 22nd of November. She is happy to cook, but she definitely needs help. People willing to lend their kitchens? List will be made of things she will be making.
- Main thing is to get people who can help.. a list of all this.
- Anna: likely to be easier, because a lot of my friends do not have lectures then, they are typically good at cooking, and likely to help.
- Jonny: I've been told they don't really like the drinking event, as it's not culturally favorable.
- Alex: We need an official event set up.
- Rachael: Why don't we do two Christmas parties. Have one Christmas dinner where the home students make Christmas dinner for anyone who wants to come. Traditional British food. But, also have a Christmas party where everyone brings some traditional food from their country.
- Alex: great idea
- J: What sorts of social events did you have at your old uni, Anna?
- A: none!
- Alex: Let's talk to Anna about it and liaise with Kunal about putting it in next email
- **Alex: Diwali on the 17th.**
- Rachael: On the 17th, starts at 8... Arathi is organizing it, she is a postgrad in Sociology who was a member from last year. We, Anna, need to talk to Catherine about speakers and tech, etc.
- Rachael: **we have a Lash and Tash formal on the 19th of November. MCR has a table.**
- Rachael: **Christmas formal, the 10th and 11th of December.**

- Rachael: **There is a carol service on the 11th, as well.**
- Rachael: Can we use the extra space in the SCR for college formals?
- Rachael: SCR formal, guest night, next week. There is an MCR table..but we have not been invtd or received information about this.
- Rachael: My friend is the president of St Johns MCR... Vice Chancellor invited all the mcr presidents for a meeting. Grey was the only exec that was not invited, as we did not have an official president because of re-hustings.
- Alex: can you find out, R, from your friend about the MCR president's committee.. Need to talk to them also about the constitution and they way things will be going. Need to get on that committee as well.

Item 7: constitutional issue

Alex – MCR is currently an unincorporated association. Basically, it means it has no legal protection. We are only an association of members. Liability for events, etc, is held responsible to exec officers. This is going to be changed, as university policy as well. Will be changing by Christmas. We will either becoming part of the JCR as a trust, or registering with the DSU and becoming a society with them.

There is an ongoing discussion b/w Alex, Master, and JCR president about the viable options, etc. We will have a more in-depth conversation about this soon. Will likely be going to a vote with the whole MCR.

Item 8 *mini societies in the MCR*

- Alex: we talked about a DocSoc, Documentary Society that will watch some documentaries every couple weeks. Run by non-exec members. Hopefully also get livers out involved in this as well.

Jonny: Any other big ideas for the future? Get an honesty bar for alcohol in the mcr?

Rachael: Start out with something relatively simple and see how it goes

Jonny: Castle Bar has an honesty bar

Alex: Might be an administrative nightmare

Alex: what about a book exchange? When we have new bookshelves after furniture exchange... we might even be able to fund buying a few books and filling a couple shelves with them.

Alex: thoughts about the room, improvements we could make?

R: There is a lot of useless things in here... old magazines, etc.

Alex: Jonny, do you want to take charge of a consultation OGM.

Alex: I'll speak to Karen a/b furniture and facilities.

Alex: About the OGM: Ie...before the event... a quick chat about ideas to improve the mcr.. got some ideas, want some more... etc. We want to spend the money on things you want... please come.

Alex: when? Next Monday.

Rachael: Sounds good. Next Monday sounds good. We know its film night anyway.

Alex: We could even have some drinks just to get people in here. Sweet Treats and Movies with a consultation as well. ***A NIGHT OF SWEETS WITH AN IKEA CATALOGUE.***

Alex: By next Monday, I'll have spoken with the Bursar about what's feasible about furniture and facilities costs, as well.

Alex: next Monday, we will have the meeting

Alex: Adam, any ideas about suggestions/improvements for the MCR?

Alex: fix the surround sound in the MCR. We've got the speakers

Anna: I have a list of a few things. How to pay the formal money for the livers out?

Alex: going to look at a booking system online. Otherwise, making JC or Anna available, etc.

R: If you arrange the times and say put money under door great. IF you really cannot make it for some time, send an email and arrange a time.

Alex: perhaps. you can bring the money on the night... and if not, you cannot attend the next formal.

Adam: Next Monday, I have a formal dinner with Julie...so, I won't be able to make it.

Alex: Next Exec meeting - - When is a good time for people.

R: MWF good

J: W not good

K: def not W

K: Doodle poll

Alex: 7 o'clock on Mondays sound to everyone?

J: Will send out the Doodle poll.

Alex: do we want to meet next week? We can meet briefly before Film night.

Alex: Provisional Meeting next Monday.

Jonny: We can title it: *"The MCR Expansion Horizon meeting"*

Meeting adjourned.